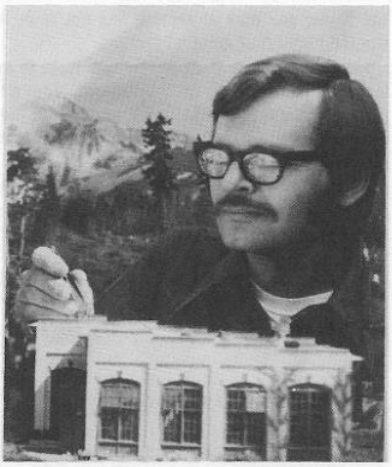
MMR_0055 Ronald J. Tarjany



RONALD D. TARJANY—MMR NO. 55

Ron Tarjany is 34 years old, married, and a Mechanical Design Engineer by profession. He was born and raised in Detroit, Michigan, and has lived in

California since 1960. His wife, Fran is also an active railroader and a fine modeler.

Ron has been modeling seriously in HO scale since 1955 and his main interests are structures and scenery. Before that it was American Flyer S-gauge (which he still has) and a Marx train (which Dad got him when he was only four).

Ron spent three years in the military overseas and did not do any modeling while defending the U.S. from "Hawaii". After his tour of duty he returned to modeling, scratch-building some 50 structures and 25 freight cars, and a small switching layout while putting himself through college.

He joined the NMRA in 1967 and PCR in 1969. In 1968 Ron joined the Culver City Model Railroad Club, thus ending his "lone wolf" modeling days. He says club membership enable him to enjoy the hobby more fully and feels that if he had done it earlier he would not have made quite so many modeling mistakes.

When he bought a house in 1969, there was a spare bedroom allotted just for a layout The Gila Pacific R R grew from the original 1x6 switching module into a 4x11 layout. Scenery on the GP is complete and is modeled with some pretty rugged mountains. The theme of the layout is logging and mining from the 1930 era. Now in the planning stage is a move to the garage so the GP can lay more track to the stand of timber to the North and the rich farm land to the West.

The first convention Ron attended was the Regional at Palo Alto, California, in 1970. He had with him a model to enter in the contest but did not even know how to enter it or fill out the form. Fortunately, Bob Silveria (now an MMR) took him under tow and between the two of them the model was entered in the contest and later took a second place ribbon. It was also due to the influence of Bob, that Ron first became interested in the Achievement Program.

Ron has had several articles published in "RAILROAD MODELER" magazine and is currently editor of the LA Division newsletter, "THE LA COUPLER." He is presently the Chairman of the NMRA Periodical Index and Chairman of the PCR Achievement Program.

At the Divisional level, he is a member of the PCR membership committee and circulation manager for the "COUPLER".

Ron holds the following certificates of Achievement: Master Builder — Cars, Structures, Scenery; Model Railroad Engineer — Civil, Electrical; Chief Dispatcher; and Association Volunteer.